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## The Health of U.S. Intelligence



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**N**INETEEN Eighty-four is my fourth year as Director of Central Intelligence. It has been a rich and gratifying experience. During the past three years, the Intelligence Community has been tested by world events but I am happy to report that we have met the challenges.

In these three years, we have created a number of new capabilities for dealing with world problems. We have contributed to thwarting terrorist attacks, helped to recover stolen technology and facilitated rescue operations in many parts of the world. The quantity and quality of our finished analysis is at the highest level in history. We published some 50 National Intelligence Estimates last year, 25 other Intelligence Community Assessments, as well as the results of more than 800 research projects on a diverse range of subjects. This was in addition to our stream of periodicals: dailies, weeklies, monthlies and quarterlies. In 1983, the KGB took the worst shellacking in its history—147 Soviet intelligence agents defected or were expelled from over 20 countries.

The threats to our national security, however, continue to grow. The Soviets have under development a large number of new conventional and strategic weapon systems. Soviet forces now operate from full-fledged bases in Cuba, Vietnam, Syria, South Yemen,

Ethiopia, Libya, Angola and over a dozen additional countries allowing more limited access. We are in action every day, dealing with the worldwide apparatus of the KGB, plus some 70 nongoverning communist parties, plus peace and friendship organizations all over the world directed from Moscow, plus the East German, Cuban and other Bloc intelligence services—all working to steal our technology, to damage our reputation, to divide us from our friends, to destabilize, subvert and overthrow governments friendly to us. There is the new, unsettling specter of state supported terrorism. The indebtedness of less developed countries could shake the stability of the international financial system. Nuclear proliferation is likely to become a greater threat to the international systems and to U.S. interests in coming years.

Fortunately, the President and Congress are giving us the resources to meet these challenges. We are well on the way to recovering the ground lost during the 1970s. Last year, about a quarter of a million Americans applied to work at CIA—a reflection of the public's improved attitude toward and confidence in their intelligence service.

The Intelligence Community is diverse; the range of the talents of its people and their capabilities is unique. I am proud of our accomplishments and the people who are responsible. Our continued effectiveness will depend in large part upon the support of the defense community including the companies which support AFCEA. You have my continuing good wishes for success.

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